

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Jay R. Yablon on 10/23/2007.

The application has been amended as follows:

Claims 28-31, 33-43, 51-65 and 88-107 have been canceled as being drawn to non-elected inventions.

Claim 44 has been amended as follows:

44. (currently amended) A bullet subassembly comprising: a hollow core running completely through ~~said a bullet subassembly~~ from a front of said bullet subassembly to a rear of said bullet subassembly; an expansion-inducing tip integral with a core material within at least part of said hollow core, and protruding forward of said front of said bullet subassembly; a pressure shield; and a connection between said expansion-inducing tip and said pressure shield through said hollow core, via said core material; wherein: said connection securely holds said expansion-inducing tip to remain in place during said bullet's flight to a target ; and said core material is capable, when said bullet

assembly impacts with a target, of being driven rearward relative to said hollow core by said expansion-inducing tip, forcing said bullet to expand radially outwardly.

Claim 66 has been amended as follows:

66. (currently amended) A firearm projectile assembly apparatus, comprising: a bullet ~~subassembly~~ comprising a hollow core running completely through said bullet ~~subassembly~~ from a front of said bullet ~~subassembly~~ to a rear of said bullet ~~subassembly~~; a pressure shield subassembly comprising an elongated pressure shield mating extension, and a pressure shield integrally attached proximate a rear of said pressure shield mating extension, said pressure shield comprising a rearward-oriented gas check; an expansion tip subassembly comprising an expansion-inducing tip integral with a core material, said core material comprising an expansion tip mating extension and residing within at least part of said hollow core, and said expansion-inducing tip protruding forward of said front of said bullet ~~subassembly~~ and integrally attached proximate a front of said expansion tip mating extension; said pressure shield mating extension inserted into the rear of said hollow core; said expansion tip mating extension inserted into the front of said hollow core; and said pressure shield mating extension mated with said expansion tip mating extension.

2. **Claims 17, 18, 21, 81-85, and 87**, previously withdrawn as being drawn to non-elected embodiments of the invention, have been rejoined at allowance.

3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to James S. Bergin whose telephone number is 571-272-

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6872. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Wednesday and Friday, 8.30 - 5.30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Michael Carone can be reached on 571-272-6873. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/James S. Bergin/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 3641